RESOLUTION NO.______

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN STATE STATUTE CHANGES AUTHORIZING COUNTIES TO CONTRACT WITH EACH OTHER TO PROVIDE AND RECEIVE CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES, INCLUDING ACCESS AND SCREENING OF REPORTS.

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Department of Children and Families Legal Counsel, counties do not have authority to receive child protection access reports, screen reports or investigate, (outside of conflict of interest cases). This is due to an Attorney General’s Opinion, 1987, discussing authority to delegate certain responsibilities under Section 48.981, Wisconsin State Statutes, and;

WHEREAS, counties may benefit through shared expertise, assisting duties during vacancies and high demand time periods, from sharing expertise across counties through contracts and Memo of Understandings (MOU’s), and;

WHEREAS, The Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Reporting Partnership which includes counties of Chippewa, Monroe, Pepin, and Taylor are designing a process that will receive child protection access reports and screening as a multi county entity and does not have statutory authority to implement, and;

WHEREAS, The CAN Reporting Partnership has been working in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family to design a partnership that will comply with Wisconsin State Statutes, Rules, and Standards that will increase the safety of children in providing expertise while receiving child protection reports and making screening decisions, and;

WHEREAS, the safety of children and families is a high priority for Wisconsin counties and creating statutory authority will increase counties ability to maintain expertise in child protection services, and;

WHEREAS, individual counties across Wisconsin are experiencing challenges in hiring, training, and retaining expert child protection staff that have the depth of knowledge needed to complete mandated services in keeping children safe. While statutory authority to share services across counties would allow counties to provide imperative services to children and families, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of __________, ______ hereby supports the necessary statutory changes that would authorize counties to contract child protection services with each other.
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Rollie Thums
David Krug
Sue Breneman
Rose Madlon

Michael Bub
Catherine Lemke
Scott Mildbrand
Lori Willner

Paula Dubiak